

From: Kristine Thomas
Sent: Wednesday, October 08, 2008 2:32 PM
To: Kristine Thomas
Cc: Patricia Campbell
Subject: GOEO Update - October 8, 2008

The following information is approved for public distribution to any and all of your associates. All events are open to the public. Please scroll through this message for a detailed summary of items described. Contact information for each item is provided.

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Today's and previous updates can be found on our website at <http://azgovernor.gov/eop/GOEOUpdates.asp>

Kristine Thomas

EEO Coordinator and Tribal Liaison
Governor's Office of Equal Opportunity
State Capitol Executive Tower
1700 West Washington, Suite 156
Phoenix, AZ 85007
PH: 602-542-4421
FAX: 602-542-3712
email: kthomas@az.gov
website: <http://azgovernor.gov/eop/>

"Many Lands, Many People, Many Faiths...One Arizona"

1. Governor reminds Arizonans of special tax credits

October 15 is Deadline to File Taxes to Receive Earned Income Tax Credit, Economic Stimulus Payment

PHOENIX – Governor Janet Napolitano today reminded Arizonans that it is not too late to file a 2007 income tax return to take advantage of the special tax credits that may be available to them. October 15, 2008 is the deadline to file federal income taxes and many residents may find that they are eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) or an economic stimulus payment.

"The average EITC benefit per family is \$1,495 dollars," said Governor Napolitano. "That money, in addition to an economic stimulus payment, could make a tremendous positive impact on a hardworking, low- to moderate-income family. It's so important to get the message out to residents about EITC and the importance of filing their taxes."

The EITC is a federal refundable tax credit available to working, low- to moderate-income individuals and families. The credit can be worth thousands of dollars and can boost an income by as much as 35 percent. To qualify, a taxpayer must meet certain rules and file a tax return, even if they don't earn enough to normally require filing a return. In addition, a tax return must be filed to receive the economic stimulus rebate, which is between \$300 and \$600 for a single taxpayer and between \$600 and \$1200 for a married couple.

Low- to moderate-income individuals and families may also save money by finding a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site in their community. Volunteers at VITA sites will prepare and file taxes for free for those who qualify.

Although many VITA sites close after the regular April 15 filing deadline each year, there are a few sites still open until Oct. 15. To find a VITA site, visit the Community Information and Referral Web site at www.cir.org and click on tax preparation information in the Special Announcements. Residents can also check with their local United Way for information on free tax preparation services in the community or visit www.AZ211.gov and click on Find Help.

Early data from the IRS indicates that as of April, Arizona families have received more than \$15.5 million in EITC, 22 percent more than last year. In addition, Arizona families saved almost \$23 million in free tax preparation services.

For more information about the Office of the Governor, please visit www.azgovernor.gov.

2. Help for our communities

Arizona has some good news amid the national economic slump. Last week, it was announced that Arizona would receive more than \$121 million from the federal government to help communities deal with the effects of foreclosure.

This is an important step, and I'm glad that Washington, D.C. has acted on this problem in a way that will make a difference for our state. I fought hard for these resources, writing to members of Congress and to the President to urge them to pass this bill with funding that recognized how heavily the housing downturn had struck states like Arizona.

This new funding will be used to revitalize neighborhoods that have been hit especially hard and help Arizona families keep their homes. The funding will allow local governments and nonprofits to acquire foreclosed properties, improve them, and sell them back to homebuyers. This will reduce the number of vacant homes in Arizona neighborhoods and reduce the blight that accompanies abandoned properties. Often, when a number of foreclosures occur in one neighborhood, vacant houses bring blight and crime, and drag down the values of other homes in the neighborhood. The new funding will help the state, local governments and nonprofits work to prevent that happening, as we keep our communities safe and vibrant.

This funding comes on top of the work we've been doing in Arizona to deal with the housing slump. A few weeks ago, I announced the initiative Housing Arizona, which strengthens our foreclosure prevention efforts, provides assistance to first-time homebuyers looking to move into the affordable housing stock we do have, and fights homelessness among critical populations such as children and veterans.

We also have our Arizona foreclosure helpline, which has put thousands of Arizona homeowners in touch with local foreclosure counselors to discuss their options. If you know anyone who is concerned about falling behind on a mortgage or has already fallen behind, I encourage you to spread the word about the helpline, which can be reached at 1-877-448-1211.

As always, you can always call my office for assistance at (602) 542-1318, or you can visit www.azgovernor.gov to find out what I've been doing about housing, the economy and other issues I've been working on.

Yours very truly,

Janet Napolitano
Governor

3. Seeking public comment for TANF State Plan

As you are aware, the Department of Economic Security (DES) is responsible for administering Arizona's state-operated Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program. Arizona is required to submit a three-year TANF State Plan to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services by December 31, 2008. The TANF State Plan describes both the Department's priority areas for the integrated work carried out by TANF-funded programs in Arizona, and the eligibility requirements of TANF-funded programs and services.

DES is seeking public comment on the new TANF State Plan, and would like to give Community members the opportunity to provide input. The Draft TANF State Plan is available on DES' website by clicking on www.azdes.gov/tanfstateplan. Please submit electronic comments on the Draft TANF State Plan via the on-line comment form through 5:00 p.m. Thursday, October 30, 2008. Comments regarding the TANF State Plan may also be provided to Keely Hartsell, DES Strategic Initiatives Director at khartsell@azdes.gov. If you have any questions, please contact Keely at (602) 364-3816.

4. Supply drive for the Havasupai Tribe

Several organizations and individuals have initiated fund raising activities to assist the Havasupai Tribe and the Havasupai Tribal members who lost their jobs and income due to the recent closure of their community. The Arizona Commission of Indian Affairs is contributing toward these efforts by coordinating a supply drive to aid in the rehabilitation of the community. Items in need are as follows:

Requested Tools and Items: Shovels, Picks, Sledge Hammers, Axes, Wire Cutters, Wheel Barrels, Working Gloves, Safety Goggles, Rakes, Buckets (5 gallon), Cement and mix, Steel Crow Bar, Chainsaws w/tools and files, Steel posts/Railroad ties, Hammers, Small crow bars, Sand bags, Loppers or pruners.

Continued Food Item Needs: Flour, Sugar, beans, crisco (lard/oil), coffee, baking powder, salt, potatoes, kool-aid, Lipton tea bags, canned goods, corned beef hash/vegetables, assorted soups, top ramen noodles

Misc. cleaning and personal supplies: toilet tissue, paper towels, feminine hygiene products, mop heads and sticks, brooms, bleach, pine sol, shampoo, cotton balls, alcohol pads, deodorant, combs/brushes, disposable razors, flashlights, batteries (all sizes) laundry detergent, fabric softener, dish soap, insect repellent, hair ties, rubber bands, toothpaste, diapers, wipes, baby formula.

Other: Salt blocks w/ protein, feed buckets, complete horse pellets, hay, and firewood.

Please contact the ACIA at 602.542.3123 or email Lorie.wells@azcia.gov regarding any possible donations or other contributions you may be able to make toward this effort.

5. Americans with Disability Act Significantly Expanded: Amendments to take effect January 1, 2009

On September 25, 2008, President Bush signed into law the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 ("ADAAA"), which passed Congress with strong bipartisan support. Setting out to restore a "broad scope of protection" under the ADA, the amendments vastly expand the meaning of "disability" and open the doors to scores of employees formerly ineligible for work-related accommodations. The Act becomes effective January 1, 2009 and changes the ADA in several important respects, including:

- Expanding the definition of "disability."
- Relaxing the definition of "substantially limited."
- Adding to the list of "major life activities."
- Expanding the definition of "regarded as."
- No longer considering "mitigating measures."
- Overturning leading Supreme Court cases.

<http://www.quarles.com/publications/detail.aspx?publication=410>

6. Labor and Employment Seminar - October 15th

The Phoenix Office of Greenberg Traurig presents a Labor and Employment Seminar

Wednesday, October 15, 2008
7:45am - 2:45pm

Arizona Biltmore Resort and Spa
2400 E. Missouri Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85016

Fee: \$100 for a company's first participant; \$75 for a company's second participant; \$50 for each additional participant from the same company. Members of the Association of Corporate Counsel - Arizona Chapter, SHRM and VSHRA will receive a 25% discount. Request for HRCI credit pending.

For more information, please call 602.445.8140 or email gtphoenix@gtlaw.com

7. Indo-American Chamber of Commerce International Business Forum - October 15th

Wednesday, October 15, 2008

7:00 - 9:30 a.m.

ASU University Club
425 E. University St.
Tempe, Arizona, 85281

PROGRAM:

7:00 a.m. Forum Registration

7:30 a.m. Buffet Breakfast & Forum

9:30 a.m. Forum Adjourns

PANELISTS:

Norman Butler Senior Vice President, Bank of America

Topic: Present & Future Trends of Banking Industry

Richard S. Ray University Professor

Topic: My Wonderful Year Teaching at Guangdong University in China

Joe Jacober, President, Innovative Brands

Topic: New Innovative Products

Thomson Attasseril, American Express, Director, Int'l Marketing

Topic: Delighting Global Customers (with information)

Moderated by Carmo Fernandez and Hank Marshall

To register please call 480.496.4010

8. GPBCC Evening Networking event - October 15th

Greater Phoenix Black Chamber of Commerce Evening Networking event

Wednesday, October 15, 2008

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Native New Yorker Restaurant
Metrocenter
9620 N. Metro Pkwy West

For more information or to register for this event please contact us at 602.307.5200 or email info@phoenixblackchamber.com

This event is free for members of the Chamber and \$10/guest.

Visit the website at www.phoenixblackchamber.com

9. American Indian Chamber of Commerce Monthly Networking Luncheon - October 17th

AICCAZ Monthly Networking Luncheon

11:30 am

Location:

Casino Arizona,

Eagle Buffet Conference Rm.

McKellips and 101 (east exit off of the 101)

AICCAZ welcomes guest speaker:

Jacqueline Johnson Pata, Executive Director - National Congress of American Indians

Jacqueline Johnson Pata is the Executive Director of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI). NCAI was founded in 1944 and is the oldest and largest tribal government organization in the United States. NCAI serves to inform the public and the federal government on a broad range of federal policy issues affecting Tribal governments. NCAI also coordinates communications among all Tribal governments and serves as a forum for consensus-based policy development among its membership of more than 250 Tribal governments in the United States.

Ms. Pata will speak about how NCAI plans on progressing and how that might impact the economic development of Indian Country as well as identifying any available opportunities to Native American businesses and tribal enterprises.

Ms. Pata will also provide highlights on the upcoming 65th Annual NCAI National Convention to be held October 19 - 24, 2008 in Phoenix, Arizona.

Price: \$18/members, \$21/non-members, \$25/at the door

To RSVP email your Name, Title, and Organization to info@aiccaz.org or call 602.254.1952

10. National Congress of American Indians Conference - October 19th-24th

65th Annual Convention and Trade Show
October 19-24, 2008

Hyatt Regency
122 North Second Street
Phoenix, Arizona, USA 85004

Keynote Speaker: Kevin Gover, Director of Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian

On Site Registration: Member \$575 Non Member \$600

For registration information and agenda, please visit http://www.ncai.org/fileadmin/ncai_events/2008annual/regform.pdf

11. Southern Arizona Gathering of American Indian veterans - October 25th

Saturday, October 25, 2008
0800 - 1500

Southern Arizona VA Health Care System
3601 S. 6th Ave.
Tucson, AZ 85723
(Courtyard Area—Parking in Lot Q)

**** Bring you DD-214 ****

Join us for this exclusive program for Southern Arizona's American Indian Veterans. Bring your family and friends!

- One-stop shop to learn of the latest veteran benefits and services
- Health screenings and wellness education
- Medal presentation and honoring ceremony
- AND IT'S ALL FREE!!

Call (520) 629-4960 for more information

12. 3rd Annual National Native American Fatherhood Conference - October 27-29

October 27-29, 2008
Windemere Hotel & Conference Center
Mesa, Arizona

Support Responsible Fatherhood To Strengthen Families.

Discover how to empower fathers and mothers.

WHO should attend? Criminal Justice workers, Educators, Human Services Providers, Parents.

Expand networking opportunities. Learn from distinguished and inspiring speakers.

For agenda and registration information visit http://www.nativeamericanfathers.org/conferences_seminars.html

13. Arizona Saves Financial Education Symposium - November 5th

Wednesday, November 5, 2008

8:30am – 3:00pm

Black Canyon Conference Center
9440 N. 25th Ave.
Phoenix, Arizona

Purpose of the Event: Arizona Saves' Financial Education Symposium on Nov. 5th, 2008 will bring together leaders in financial education, non-profit organizations, financial institutions, and government leaders to learn about and discuss strategies to improve financial education services and financial stability for Arizona residents. Attendees will learn about national trends in financial education and also have an opportunity to discuss how financial education and access to affordable financial services can be enhanced in our community.

Who Should Attend? Any businesses leader, non-profit agency, government staff, or financial institution representative, interested in financial education and affordable financial services should attend.

Cost: \$35.00

Space is limited. Register online at arizonasaves.org by Oct. 30, 2008

For more information contact Patrick Jordan at 602.246.3510 or at pjordan@arizonasaves.org

14. AEC 53rd Annual Human Resources Conference and Expo - November 7th

Friday, November 7th, 2008

Arizona Biltmore

Registration: \$189/Members, \$219/Non Members

Download the registration form at <http://www.aecjobstore.com/AEC2008AnnualConferenceFlyer.pdf>

Anyone who wears the HR hat knows how complex employment laws and daily administration can be. It always seems to be a gamble. This year's Conference focuses on some of the "trickiest" areas of the law to administer. We've also included a fun session on learning about your own personality (and others) based on the color that best matches you! There's also a session to help you bring balance into your hectic life.

If you've been to an AEC Conference before, you know what a great time we have!

- Our sessions are highly informative and presented by some of the best experts in the field.
- We also believe in 'HRelief' so we provide a little fun, too!
- This year we'll have a Vegas-style Roulette Wheel and Slot Machines for your opportunity to win fantastic door prizes!
- Our wonderful Exhibitors will be on hand to provide you with face-to-face information about their products and services.
- When you visit all of the Exhibitors, you can enter to win an incredible Grand Door Prize!

All of us at AEC hope you'll join us for this jam-packed, fun-filled day! As always, everything is included with your registration including meals, games, expo, materials, sessions and of course, FUN!

For more information, please contact the AZ Employers Council at 602.955.7558 or visit the website at www.aechr.org

15. Conflict Management Workshop - November 17th

Tired of costly, wasteful and unproductive conflict? Register For Our Conflict Management Workshop:

"Dealing With Difficult People"

Monday, November 17, 2008

8:30 am - 3:30 pm

Tempe, AZ

Is a demanding client eating into your productivity? Is someone in your office stirring up trouble? Is a difficult co-worker causing stress? Are obnoxious neighbors threatening the quality of your neighborhood? Is a family feud draining the fun of family gatherings? Is a boss or subordinate giving you anxiety?

This one-day course will help you better manage difficult people, such as employees, volunteers, clients, coworkers and family. This course provides an overview of the theory and practice of negotiation in difficult situations, communicating with stubborn people and handling highly emotional individuals. The course is open to the general public.

Registration information <http://www.interactionmanagementassociates.com/Register.html>

For more information, please contact Interaction Management Associates at 480.699.0892 or email info@IMAmmediation.com

Visit the website at <http://www.interactionmanagementassociates.com/Index.html>

16. Native Nations Building Seminar – November 18th

When: November 18-19, 2008

Where: Desert Diamond Casino, Tucson AZ

The Native Nations Institute for Leadership, Management and Policy (NNI) at the University of Arizona is please to offer an Executive Education seminar for Native Nation Building: Leadership, Governance, and Economic Policy. This seminar is explicitly designed to equip Native leaders and senior managers with knowledge and tools for nation building. Session topics will include: Why Are Some Native Nations More Successful Than Others, Rethinking Tribal Government, Making Tribal Economic Work, and many more!

Registration Fee: \$175.00 BEFORE October 31, 2008, \$200.00 after October 31, 2008

Space is LIMITED! Enrollment is limited to 75 participants, so register early to reserve your space!

For more information you can contact Carrie Stusse at (520) 626-0664 or email nni@email.arizona.edu

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